

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (New) A method of adjusting transmit performance parameters over a digital subscriber line (DSL) comprising the step of:

receiving, from a DSL modem, a signal exhibiting a first performance parameter;

determining a signal-to-noise-ratio for the received signal; and

requesting, from the DSL modem, an adjustment in a second performance parameter associated with the received signal.
3. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

receiving, from a DSL modem, a second signal exhibiting the first performance parameter and the adjustment in the second performance parameter.
4. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the second performance parameter is transmit power level.
5. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the second performance parameter is transmit data rate.
6. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

negotiating, with the DSL modem, a value for the first performance parameter, wherein said negotiating step is performed before the determining step.
7. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein said second performance parameter is transmit data rate and said first performance parameter is transmit power level.

8. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein said second performance parameter is transmit power level and said first performance parameter is transmit data rate.

9. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
selecting the second performance parameter from a plurality of possible performance parameters.

10. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
repeating the receiving, determining and requesting steps until the data rate of the received signal is marginally supported.

11. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps of:
negotiating, with the DSL modem transmitter, a value for the first performance parameter, wherein said negotiating step is performed before the determining step;
repeating, using the negotiated value for the first performance parameter, the receiving, determining and requesting until the received signal marginally supports the adjustment to the second performance parameter.

12. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps of:
receiving, from the DSL modem, a signal comprising a plurality of sub-bands, each sub-band transmitted at a transmit power level; and
determining a signal-to-noise-ratio for each sub-band in the received signal.

13. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
requesting, from the DSL modem over a secondary channel, an adjustment in the second performance parameter associated with the received signal.

14. (New) A digital subscriber line (DSL) modem receiver comprising:

means for receiving, from a DSL modem, a signal exhibiting a first performance parameter;

means for determining a signal-to-noise-ratio for the received signal; and

means for requesting, from the DSL modem, an adjustment in a second performance parameter associated with the received signal.

15. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 14, wherein the second performance parameter is transmit power level.

16. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 14, wherein the second performance parameter is transmit data rate.

17. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 14, further comprising:

means for negotiating, with the DSL modem, a value for the first performance parameter, wherein said negotiating step is performed before the determining step.

18. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 17, wherein said second performance parameter is transmit data rate and said first performance parameter is transmit power level.

19. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 17, wherein said second performance parameter is transmit power level and said first performance parameter is transmit data rate.

20. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 14, further comprising:

means for selecting the second performance parameter from a plurality of possible performance parameters.

21. (New) The DSL modem receiver of claim 14, further comprising:

means for receiving, from the DSL modem, a signal comprising a plurality of sub-bands, each sub-band transmitted at a transmit power level; and

means for determining a signal-to-noise-ratio for each sub-band in the received signal.